

# COMMITTEE KILLS MINE BILL; ENTIRELY NEW PLAN PROPOSED.

**Suggestion for Sub-Division of Bituminous Region, Advanced by the Courier, Favored by Operators.**

## LOCAL LAWS FOR DISTRICTS

Such an Arrangement Would Prevent  
Clashes Between Operators of Dif-  
ferent Fields and Would Insure  
Greater Safety of Life and Property

and the storm of protests which arose from not only operators but many coal miners as well, has resulted in the decision of the House Committee on Mines and Mining to kill the measure.

At a meeting of that Committee several days ago, it was decided to indefinitely postpone reporting the measure.

The operators of the Connellsville region were more than pleased to hear of the death of the measure. It would have imposed severe and needless hardships on them. The conflicting views taken of this bill have resulted in turning the ideas of many coal men into entirely different channels regarding mining legislation.

The Weekly Courier herewith presents some suggestions as to lines for mining legislation which have already been privately discussed by operators of the Connellsville region and their Courier representative. In nearly every case operators have taken up the suggestion with interest and enthusiasm, as being in line with the needs of the day.

The great fault of all legislation for the bituminous regions has been the fact that there has been no attempt to discriminate between the different requirements of the several soft coal

districts. These differences were never more plainly revealed than during the discussion of the recently embodied bill.

It became apparent that each district had special conditions which required special regulations, and the regulations which suited one district were entirely unsuitable and impracticable for another district. These conditions are due to the difference in the seams of coal and the several conditions under which they are found and to the

It is suggested that the mining regulations of the State be arranged to cover its various districts in the following manner:

Second.—The subdivision of the bituminous district into three sections, or, more, according to the natural divisions in mining practice and interest, which already exist in fact. Such subdivision would place the Connellsville region in one section, the Pittsburgh district, river and coal, in another section, and the thin-vein mines in still another section.

Third.—The appointment of a Deputy

The carrying out of some such plans, as generally stated above, would be once and away with the present interminable disputes between the operators of the several districts. It would permit each district to be governed by rules best suited for that district without interfering with any other district. It would not prevent the operators of the bituminous regions of the State from acting in concert on any general proposition. It would not require the abrogation of any general mining law.

which are generically necessary in all fields. It would merely add to these general laws and amplify them in such a manner as to bring the greatest factor of safety to life and property.

The proposed law which has been killed was not opposed by the operators of the Connellsville region for

any purely selfish reasons. In the course of the discussions of the last three months it has been made plain that the mining men of other districts regard the mining practise of the Cornwallville region as among the most advanced in the world. This practise has resulted, within recent years, in an elimination of great disasters. To mine managers and owners of the Cornwallville region have kept step with new ideas and progress, and have in many particulars kept away ahead of the legal requirements. This is shown

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(Continued on Page 3)

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(Continued on Page 2)





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## BEIGHLEY OFFERS ATTORNEYS \$20

But They Thought It Was  
Worth More Than That to  
Prevent Bad Suit.

SUE AND GET JUDGMENT

Result is That Old Breach of Promise  
Case Comes to Light Once More But  
Smithfield Farmer Gets Off Easy,  
Many Think

NONTOWN, April 2.—Howard Bright, a farmer living near Smithfield 45 years and retired Attorneys John S. Christ and H. F. Detweiler \$100 each for their part in settling a bad breach of promise suit but they did not think this sum was sufficient. They brought suit for twice of the Brights, D. M. Bright and more money.

The suit never had a testimonial affidavit which was never alleged, but which has furnished a libel for gossip in and around Sun Hill for many years past. It all started eight years ago when Miss Mary Stumm sued Bogleigh for \$10,000 claiming breach of promise. The suit stated the farmer and his immediate family settled. On condition of withdrawing the suit Bogleigh gave Miss Stumm a paper setting forth that he would marry her within a year. He never did.

The fall Miss Stumm renewed the action having the paper Bogleigh gave her in his possession. She again sue

For \$3000, Beighley went to Storrs, Conn., to see the attorneys, Messrs. Christ and Develer, and sought their aid in securing the return of the (then) common-law attorney of the case. They had shared the attorneys' recommendation in a friendly settlement of the case. They told him the chances were good he would lose the suit.

A settlement was effected by Beighley paying the plaintiff \$400 but her attorney withdrew the suit and the suit was withdrawn.

When the attorneys learned the suit was scuttled, he sent Beighley a bill for \$3000.

of \$1 or \$2.50 each. He offered them \$10 apiece, but they could not see it that way and the suit resulted.

Continuity to the usual custom in June there will be one week of civil court in addition to the two weeks of crim-

rule to show cause why judgment should not be entered was granted yesterday in the case of Or. Rice against David Grove the motion being filed in behalf of Grove by Attorney F. C. Newcomer. Or. Rice is the man recently sentenced to two years imprisonment for having shot his father in law.

Grove died last March 1968. He purchased a house from a house near Hwy 40 and gave a note for \$300. On the day that he was in the \$700 while he was in the house to occupy the house without payment. He claims \$100 month or \$6 for rent and believes that the debt as thereby be discharged.

Charles Rice did not desertion in September 1967 at Pleasantville, N. J. The couple was married in Fair Chance February 1, 1967. The libel

The will of the late Hannah Sheers of Bellingham township was left for

of "joint" ownership was left for probate at today. By the provision of the will none of the property can be disposed of during the life of her husband William Sherry. After the death the estate is to be converted into cash and divided equally between her children Dorc George, Hannah P. Smith and Rebecca. The estate is valued at \$1,000 and a two of her sons, Eric and George are named as executors.

**FAYETTE COUNTY**  
**MAN IS CHOICE**

Congregation of Allison Avenue Baptist Church, Washington, Pa., Call  
Rev. James S. Jewell

WASHINGTON, Pa. April 2.—At a congregational meeting held at the Allison Avenue Baptist Church yesterday evening a unanimous call was extended to Rev. James S. Jewell to the pastorate of the church. It is thought Mr. Jewell will accept.

At the present time Mr Jewell is pastor of the Baptists Church at Flatwoods Fayette county where he has been located for the past nine years. He is well known in Washington, having been there on several occasions. Twice he has held evangelistic meetings at the Allison Avenue Church and on last Sunday he preached to

The pulpit of the Allison Avenue Church was made vacant by the resignation of the Rev W M Courson who on March 1 went to Bradford where he had previously accepted a charge

## SAFETY EXPLOSIVES IN OTHER COUNTRIES

**They Are Required in Fiery  
Coal Mines by the Gov-  
ernment's Order.**

### BLACK POWDER MUCH USED

**Little Improvement Has Taken Place  
For Many Years In The Matter of  
Making High Explosives Less Dan-  
gerous Underground**

Oscar Guilmann, a well known European authority on explosives recently delivered a number of lectures on the subject before the Royal Society of Arts of Great Britain. In several European countries black powder continues largely in use for blasting coal. Though the last 20 years have seen important progress in explosives the use of black powder shows little sign of dying out. In Great Britain more than half the total weight of explosives used in 1907 consisted of black powder. Practically no progress has been made in this blasting agent since 1856 but a number of rough mixtures similar to black powder have been revived and are used extensively in Germany. Among these may be mentioned the Sprengel powder, practically a black powder with sodium nitrate in place of potassium nitrate. Petrok lastite containing coal pitch and bitumen, and a mixture of potassium nitrate, sulphur, lamp oil, cellulose and iron sulphate. In America large quantities of sodium nitrate powder are used.

There has been no special improvement in dynamite since the spring gelatine was invented in 1875. This explosive and the gelatine dynamites have in most countries driven Kieselguhr dynamite out of the field. Considerable advance, however, has been made in the removal of one of the chief objections to dynamite, its liability to freezing. The addition of nitroglycerine to the mixture was one of the first expedients tried but it was found that the presence of the nitroglycerine reduced the explosive power when used in sufficient quantities to prevent freezing. Later, dinitroethylene was used and in 1904 the addition of dinitrochlorobenzene to nitroglycerine explosives was patented together with a practical method of manufacturing dinitrochlorobenzene. The latter is now made on a large scale in Germany. A large number of other additions have been tried but none has been definitely adopted for the manufacture of unfreezable dynamites.

The main advance in explosives during the last two decades has been in the field of safety explosives for gaseous collieries. A large part of this advance has been due to the use of ammonium nitrate as an ingredient in a powder mixture. It has been definitely established that ammonium nitrate is absolutely safe in all quantities. It cannot be used alone but it simply requires to be determined what quantity of combustible can be added to avoid flames of great length and duration. The Water Dynamite made by the Austrian Government to use in fiery mines contains ammonium nitrate 97.81 per cent, charcoal 1.77 per cent and 1.12 per cent of moisture.

Explosives containing potassium chlorate, says the Engineering Magazine, were long excluded from the list of safety explosives on account of their explosive properties. The recent advent of electrolytic methods for the manufacture of potassium chlorate has brought the price of this chemical down to a point where it can be used commercially in the manufacture of suitable explosives and a great deal of research has been applied to the investigation of methods of eliminating its dangerous qualities. Success has been attained by the addition to the explosive of some oil.

In 1908 a chlorate explosive was licensed as a safety explosive in England under the name of Colliery Steelite. It consists of 71 parts of potassium chlorate, 25 parts of oxidized resin and one part of castor oil.

The first safety explosive was a nitroglycerine explosive. Carbonite, curiously enough it has not been surpassed for safety though it has been on the market for 20 years. The composition is sulphate, cellulose, nitroglycerine and sulphurated oil. The investigation of nitroglycerine safety explosives has shown that the addition of cellulose to nitroglycerine compositions as free fiber to Carbonite or wood pulp to other explosives renders them highly inert in fire-damp mixtures.

In every European country the use of gunpowder is prohibited in fiery mines. One black powder like mixture, Bobbin, however has passed even the most stringent tests in England and has been admitted to the list of permitted explosives. It has the advantage of being slow burning and of not unduly shattering the coal. The fact that the miners are used to black powder, and that if the borehole be overcharged as usual Bobbin does not break up the coal badly, have also assisted in making it popular.

#### Want New Trial

A new trial has been asked in the Trotter Water Company suit which Wash Herd won against them, he receiving a verdict for \$2,500.

## FIELD NEWS IN CONCISE FORM.

John Fulton, the eminent authority on coal and coke who has retired from active service by reason of his advanced years, is still in touch with the coke industry and allowed himself to be interviewed by the Courier. Mr. Fulton will make physical examinations of coke to determine its quality and with this end in view he has collected his physical library at Uniontown, Pa. So far as is known for this purpose. By reason of his writings, of coke and of the coke industry, it is quite probable that his library will be known to the coke interests of both hemispheres.

The Monahan Coal & Coke Company has been incorporated and has established offices in the Fairbairn Building, Baltimore, to do a whole sale coal and coke business and will handle the Connellsville region product.

The Japanese government is reported to be operating its iron and steel works at Yamaguchi at a loss but determined to continue the plant in operation so that its product will not be displaced by imported material. The plant produces rails and other iron and steel products and its operation was \$700,000.

The existence of coal beds of workable thickness in the southern part of Utah is being known. The first country was settled by the Mormons in the middle of the last century but the location of the region has not been developed and it is known of the coal fields of southern Utah that others in the United States. Only a small number have been opened in the vicinity of settlements and the outcrops and practically the entire region is unexplored.

Steel mine cars seem to have the call.

James J. Hill, C. M. Schwab, and Judge E. H. Gray are all interested in the steel industry. Mr. Hill is a director of the American Iron and Steel Institute, Mr. Schwab is a director of the American Iron and Steel Institute, and Judge Gray is a director of the American Iron and Steel Institute.

Western railroads say they will not buy rails until the price is cut.

The United States Steel Corporation is operating its plants at a loss but determined to continue the plant in operation so that its product will not be displaced by imported material.

The Virginia Iron and Coke Company is operating its plants at a loss but determined to continue the plant in operation so that its product will not be displaced by imported material.

The New England Coal and Coke Company is operating its plants at a loss but determined to continue the plant in operation so that its product will not be displaced by imported material.

W. P. Sawyer & Company, the largest independent furnace and blast in the Valley, have made a new method of producing iron and steel. The new method is a modification of the Bessemer process and is known as the Sawyer process.

The coke production of Alabama for 1908 is estimated at 1,000,000 tons.

The Jones & Laughlin Steel Company has announced that it will produce 1,000,000 tons of steel in 1909.

Five men were killed and one injured by an explosion at the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock on April 7.

The Minister of Public Works of France has announced that he will visit the United States in 1910.

Contracts have been let for the new blast furnace to be erected at the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock.

The La Brie Iron Company has placed in service its new 100-ton blast furnace at the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock.

Furnace No. 8 of the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock was shut down for repairs on April 7.

The No. 1 Andrews-Hitchcock blast furnace at the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock is being run down for repairs.

The Lorain Steel Company has secured a \$1,000,000 contract for the construction of a new steel mill at the Edgar Thomson plant at Braddock.

A five foot seam of coal, which burns freely and resembles Connellsville, has been found in Onondaga county, New York. It is said to be a valuable find.

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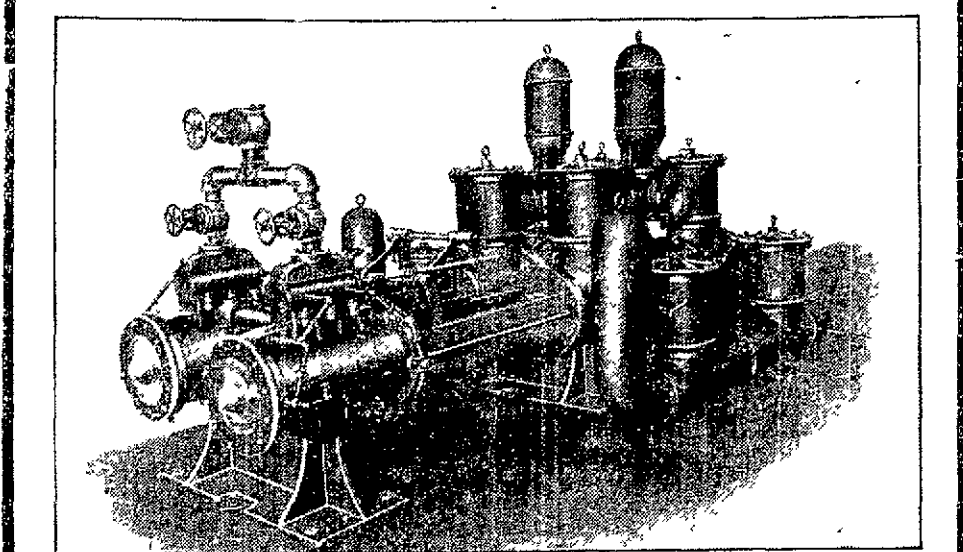
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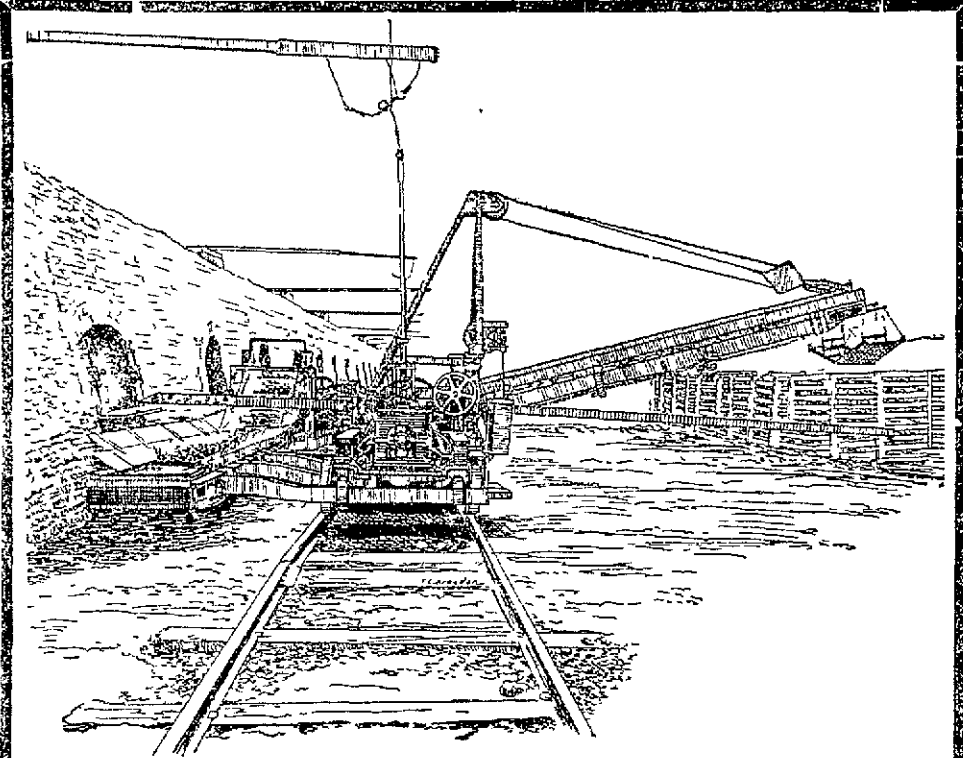
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